

MICHAEL F. EASLEY GOVERNOR

AMATEUR RADIO RECOGNITION AND APPRECIATION WEEK

2008

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, North Carolina is home to almost 18,000 federally licensed amateur radio operators, also known as "hams"; and

WHEREAS, for the past century ham radio operators have experimented with and perfected technologies we all enjoy today such as television, high fidelity FM, cellular telephones and VOIP (Voice over Internet Protocol); and

WHEREAS, amateur radio operators have a proud tradition of public service and have provided emergency communications at no charge to government and public service agencies following numerous hurricanes, floods and storms in North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, amateur radio was formally inducted into the U.S. Citizen Corps of the Department of Homeland Security because of its value in disaster operations; and

WHEREAS, both the White House and Congressional reports on the response to Hurricane Katrina praised amateur radio for its role in providing emergency communications when regular and cellular telephone service and internet service failed; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina enacted H1340 in the 2007 legislative session to become SL2007-147, the "Act to recognize the value of amateur radio communications by requiring city and county ordinances regulating antennas to reasonably accommodate amateur radio communications"; and

WHEREAS, since 1949, North Carolina amateur radio operators have been meeting on the air daily for the past 58 years at 7:30 P.M. on 3923 KHz. for *The Tar Heel Emergency Net* to exchange good will and to test their skills and equipment to respond in an emergency; and

WHEREAS, June 28 and 29 mark the 76th annual Field Day, an event in which amateur radio operators around the world test their equipment simultaneously under simulated emergency conditions; and

WHEREAS all North Carolinians have benefited from this dedicated corps of volunteer communications professionals;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MICHAEL F. EASLEY, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim June 22-28, 2008, as "AMATEUR RADIO RECOGNITION AND APPRECIATION WEEK" in North Carolina, and Leallypon all citizens to pay tribute to the Amateur Radio operators of our state.

MICHAEL F. EASLEY

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Independence of the States of America the two hundred and thirty-second.